



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fort Sumter
National Monument

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Sullivan's Island, SC 29482

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Fort Sumter News Release

Release date: Immediate
Contact(s): Bill Martin
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Date: October 21, 2003

Proposal to amend the Fort Sumter General Management Plan; Public meetings announced

The National Park Service will conduct public meetings on October 27, 28, and 29 to present alternatives for the proposed amendment to the Fort Sumter General Management Plan and the associated Environmental Assessment. Public input into this planning process is requested. Alternatives proposed for your consideration include the following:

1. Alternative A, (no action): This alternative would be to implement the 1998 GMP as written and approved. A no action alternative is required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The park's current General Management Plan directs that visitors board a ferry to Fort Sumter at one location, the Fort Sumter Visitor Education Center at Liberty Square.
2. Alternative B, (preferred alternative): Two ferry departure points are proposed, one at the Fort Sumter Visitor Education Center at Liberty Square and a secondary departure point located in the Mt. Pleasant/East Cooper River area. This alternative meets the objectives associated with the purpose and need for the proposed action and attains the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment, resource protection, visitor safety and enjoyment, and cultural resource protection, without degradation of resources.

A copy of the General Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Assessment will be available on the web at <http://www.nps.gov/fosu/gmp/index.htm>, and also in print format at Liberty Square, Charles Pinckney National Historic Site, and Fort Moultrie. Limited copies are available and you may call the park at 843 883-3123, ext. 10 to request a copy to be mailed to you. Copies will be sent out as long as they are available.

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The public is invited to attend any of the following meetings. If you would like to attend one of these meetings and be included as a speaker on the agenda, please contact the park at 843 883-3123, ext. 10. Any member of the public who would like to make a presentation is required to be on the agenda and should be aware that presentations are not to exceed three minutes. Although it is preferable that you call ahead so that the agenda and meeting length can be established beforehand, you may sign up at the meeting if you cannot call ahead. A transcript of all the proceedings will be made part of the official public record.

Location - Charleston

Charleston Metro Chamber
81 Mary Street
Charleston, SC 29402
Monday, October 27, 4-6 p.m.

Location - North Charleston

City Hall
4900 Lacross Road
North Charleston, SC 29406
Tuesday, October 28, 5-7 p.m.

Location - Mt. Pleasant

Town of Mount Pleasant Municipal Complex
Council Chambers
100 Ann Edwards Lane
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
Wednesday, October 29, 5-7 p.m.

(Duration of meetings is subject to change pending receipt of public input concerning those intending to speak.)

If you wish to comment on the General Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Assessment and you are unable to participate in one of the public meetings, you may mail comments to the name and address below. This General Management Plan and Environmental Assessment will be on public review for 30 days from October 21 through November 19. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to kathy_pearcy@nps.gov.

Please note that names and addresses of people who comment become part of the public record. We will make all submissions from organizations, from businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses or representing themselves, available for public inspection in their entirety.

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Any anonymous comments will not be considered. Comments must be received by close of business November 19, 2003. Comments postmarked (mail) or dated (e-mail) after November 19 will not receive consideration. Please address written comments to:

GMP Amendment Comments
Fort Sumter National Monument
1214 Middle Street
Sullivan's Island, SC 29482

More information on the proposed amendment is available on the Internet at:

<http://www.nps.gov/fosu/gmp/index.htm>

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